MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 MARCH 1983

Maghreb Affairs

Commenting on the 26 February meeting between Algeria's President Chadli Bendjedid and Morocco's King Hassan II, Polisario foreign affairs spokesman Salim Mohamed Ould Salek said the Saharan Government and the Polisario are receptive to and support every initiative that seeks to revive direct negotiation between the SDAR and Morocco to achieve a peaceful settlement of the crisis, Algiers radio announced. According to a related AFP report, the Polisario spokesman added that peace is conditional upon "the withdrawal of the last Moroccan soldier" from Saharan territory and dependent upon Morocco's respecting the SDAR's "sovereignty and territorial integrity." Earlier, , Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi pointed out that Tunisian President Bourguiba "salutes" this new initiative and views it as another incentive to continue joint efforts toward strengthening the bonds of fraternity and cooperation among the Maghreb countries, Tunis radio reported.

Addressing the Algerian workers union, President Bendjedid declared that the policy of good-neighborliness is the "sound and exemplary" way to settle all questions and problems among brothers, APS noted. The president defined good-neighborliness as "non-interference" in the internal affairs of others and respect for the will of peoples of neighboring countries, APS added.

Egypt

During a working visit to Rome, Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, said it is "urgent" to find a solution to the Middle East crisis before the start of the next U.S. presidential campaign because there will be little talk in the United States later about the Middle East, according to AFP. Ghali said it is "vital" to associate both Jordan and the Palestinians in future negotiations on Palestinian autonomy, adding that Egypt would participate in the negotiations only if that condition were fulfilled, AFP added. The minister described Egyptian-Israeli relations as a kind of "cold peace," asserting that Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon is a precondition for any improvement in bilateral relations, AFP noted.

Israel

Defense Minister Moshe Arens "apologized" to Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and denied reports that he had stated that Weinberger's positions are influenced by his economic activities and that he "is worse" than Secretary of State George Shultz, Jerusalem radio disclosed.

Jordan

Secretary of State Shultz' statement to a Senate committee that the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Arab Jerusalem are Israeli-occupied territories "is the most clear-cut stand the United States has taken on the occupied territories," according to an Amman radio commentary. The radio said the statement's "value" lies in the fact that it comprehensively explains the position of the Reagan administration on Israeli settlement policy. Expressing "appreciation" for the U.S. Administration's "courageous stand," the radio noted that the United States is "dutybound" to follow up its declared stands with clear action that will end settlements and occupation.

Lebanon

Negotiations Session -- The Israeli delegation displayed "inflexibility" toward Lebanon's proposals on bilateral relations and security arrangements, the Lebanese Information Ministry announced in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio following the first session of the 1 March Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. talks at Khaldah. Earlier, Jerusalem radio reported that during talks with Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir, U.S. envoy Philip Habib failed to bridge large gaps between Lebanon and Israel on several matters, including the dispute over the manning of observation posts, the role of UNIFIL, and the pace of normalization of relations. The radio also said Israel may propose that the IDF patrol Israel's security strip in Lebanon in conjunction with Major Sa'd Haddad's forces.

PLO Withdrawal, Prisoners -- The PLO is ready to withdraw its fighters from Lebanon provided the safety of Palestinians in Lebanon is safeguarded, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir reaffirmed in a statement to AS-SAFIR reported by Radio Monte Carlo. Al-Wazir also declared in a 28 February interview reported by KUNA that the PLO would know "within the next 24 hours" when the exchange of PLO and Israeli prisoners will take place.

Syria

The Soviet Union has supplied Syria with two radar early warning aircraft flown by "Soviet experts" and is also setting up several modern radar installations near Damascus, according to Arab diplomatic sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio. Culture Minister Najah al-'Attar stated in Damascus that the Soviet Union will not leave the Middle East at the mercy of the United States and Israel and will adopt a stiffer position in 1983 than during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

In another development President Hafiz al-Asad held talks with visiting Libyan Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, SANA noted.

Iran

The authorities pardoned and released 8,193 prisoners throughout the country on 27 February, Tehran radio reported citing an announcement by the head of the council supervising prison affairs. The move is in accordance with Ayatollah Khomeyni's December 1982 decree on the judicial system, the radio indicated.

GCC Affairs

Measures for implementing the unified economic agreement among the GCC countries will begin on 2 March and will include the abolition of customs tariffs for locally manufactured commodities, WAKH announced.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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SENIOR OFFICIALS HOLD CONSULTATIONS ON SUMMIT

BK010353 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] The countdown for the seventh nonaligned summit will start this morning with a 2-day preparatory meeting of senior officials in New Delhi. Most of the officials are already in the capital and represent almost the entire membership of the movement. Some of them are having informal consultations with Indian officials.

The conference spokesman, Manishanker Aiyyar, says they will prepare the ground for the foreign ministers meeting which begins on Thursday. The foreign ministers are expected to be in town by tomorrow evening. The summit itself begins next Monday.

Besides discussing various procedural matters the officials will go over the draft declarations that India as host country has already circulated among the participants.

The Pakistan delegation led by Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik has arrived in New Delhi to attend the summit.

Preparatory Meetings Begin

BK010930 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] Senior officials from nonaligned countries began their 2-day meeting in New Delhi this morning with a call by the chairman, Mr Raul Roa Kouri of Cuba, to work for a world of peace for all, security for all, and progress for all. The meeting is preparing for the foreign ministers level conference to be opened day after tomorrow.

It has finalized recommendations regarding the agenda for the foreign ministers meeting. About the election of officers to assist the chairman, it decided to follow the past practice of giving representation on the basis of geographical regions. Asia and Africa will each elect seven vice chairmen; Latin America, four; and Europe, two. The regional groups are now having informal consultation to finalize their nominations for the election. Election is expected to be completed by this evening.

This morning's meeting also discussed the draft report to be submitted by the chairman of the Coordinating Bureau for the ministerial conference. The report is being finalized.

Mr Raul Rao Kouri in his inaugural speech praised India's contribution to the Nonaligned Movement and expressed satisfaction that the summit is being organized in New Delhi.

The leader of the Indian delegation, Mr Rasgotra, extended a warm welcome to all delegations and said India has been richer by the presence of distinguished personages from different parts of the world.

KARMAL ON 'COUNTERREVOLUTION,' NONALIGNMENT

BK281511 Delhi PATRIOT in English 10 Feb 83 p 1, 7

[By special correspondent]

[Text] The U.S. has so far provided to Afghan counter-revolutionaries 218 million dollars worth of aid and earmarked another 105 million dollars as "additional assistance to the bandits" in 1983, according to President Babrak Karmal.

In an exclusive interview to PATRIOT, the Afghan president said military and financial help from U.S.-led international reaction to counter-revolutionaries had lately assumed "extensive dimensions."

Asserting that the "undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is part of the overall offensive of imperialism and reaction against the forces of peace, democracy and social progress," he said that the FRG had also given 60 million marks and Britain 18 million pounds to the rebels to subvert Afghan sovereignty.

He referred to a report in RENMIN RIBAO of 28 December, 1982, to claim that according to that official organ of the People's Republic of China, the moral and material aid to the Afghan rebels from Beijing continued unabated.

Similarly, Israel and "reactionary petro-dollar regimes" in West Asia had joined the U.S. and its NATO allies as well as the Chinese in this "unholy alliance" against the DRA, Mr Karmal said.

On the decision of the U.S. Senate on 1 October, 1982, to increase the quantum of Washington's overall aid to the rebels, he said this had raised President Reagan's aggressive actions against Afghanistan to the level of state policy. He said it was of no mean significance that the decision in this regard was taken not long after the Afghan Armed Forces had scored a great victory in an area considered as an "indefeatable fortification" of the rebels.

The Afghan president was alluding to the Afghan Government's military successes in the Panjsher Valley in mid-1982.

The U.S. Senate decision, he felt, was directly related to the "defeats of the mercenary forces of world imperialism, international reaction and hegemonism" in Afghanistan. It was also an "indirect admission by the centres of world imperialism that within the span of more than four years they could not help counter-revolution stand on its own feet despite the, so-to-say, secret assistance." Hence by this decision the imperialists had confessed their failure to "cover the open interference in Afghan affairs vis-a-vis the strong winds of international exposure and ill-fame."

He said Afghanistan was an object of imperialist intrigues, conspiracies and intervention since the early fifties to draw it into military pacts. This interference had entered a new stage with the success of the April Revolution in the country in 1978.

Mr Karmal lashed out at President Reagan pointing to his pronouncement last December that he "is not tired of supporting" the Afghan counter-revolutionaries and "shall not abandon them." He recalled how imperialist states had exposed their interference openly speaking about extending assistance to counter-revolutionaries in Afghanistan at the 37th session of the UN General Assembly.

In this context he referred to the recent Managua meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of nonaligned foreign ministers where the massive military aid of the U.S. and Israel to reactionary and counter-revolutionary forces in Latin America had been sharply condemned as a threat to the sovereignty and national independence of countries in that region.

He said that the DRA was extremely happy to find New Delhi selected as the venue of the seventh non-aligned summit. It was an "added pleasure to us" that Mrs Indira Gandhi, a "sincere friend of Afghanistan," was taking over as chairperson of the Non-aligned Movement at this summit.

"I have complete faith that Mrs Indira Gandhi will make a valuable contribution to the cause of strengthening of this movement by pursuing the principled policy which her country has adopted towards the movement and that she will make necessary endeavours for preserving its unity and cohesion," he declared, adding: "As far as we are concerned, we will not spare any kind of cooperation with Mrs Gandhi in fulfillment of her tasks in the movement."

He said Afghanistan would actively participate in the New Delhi summit to reinforce nonaligned solidarity in the face of imperialist conspiracies.

In his opinion, the movement, reckoned as one of the main factors for ensuring durable global peace, "must exert necessary efforts to safeguard peace and check the activity of warmongering circles." He emphasised that the DRA and India both pursued a policy of peace and peaceful coexistence, non-intervention, non-use of force for solving international disputes, good neighbourliness -- all of which were the established principles of the movement.

He described Mrs Gandhi as an "outstanding international statesperson" and praised her for her well-known "contribution to the cause of preservation of peace and easing of tension in the region and the world." Afghanistan, he said, was happy to note the prime minister's full awareness of the "factors responsible for the tension" in the vicinity of her country.

"The wise and realistic policies of India vis-a-vis the situation in the region are viewed by us with satisfaction," he said.

The Afghan president paid rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Jawharlal Nehru pointing to Gandhi's political life that underlined the "desire for peace and living in peace, amity and non-violence" and extolling Nehru's "active and outstanding role during all stages of its (the Non-aligned Movement's) inception" as a founder-leader.

Mr Karmal dwelt on the "unprecedentedly massive arming of Pakistan by the U.S." and Washington's attempts to turn Islamabad into a "bulwark of their military preparations and sentinel of imperialist interests." The imperialist policy in the region, he felt, was not directed against the DRA alone but India as well because of the latter's "independent peace-loving policy."

Cautioning against any form of indifference to the serious threats before countries of South and South West Asia, he warned: "Imperialism also aims at provoking turmoil from abroad and fanning subversion in India."

He said Afghanistan viewed with appreciation India's efforts to solve disputes and eliminate tensions in this part of the world. India's steps in this direction were prompted not only by its peace-loving policy "but also due to considerations of its security," he said.

Affirming the DRA's desire for a "realistic solution" of all disputes in the area, including problems around Afghanistan, he stressed settlement of these problems in the light of the DRA Government's "peaceful proposals" advanced on 14 May, 1980 and 24 August, 1981. Those proposals envisaged direct talks with both Pakistan and Iran, and Afghanistan was still in favour of such talks as these were "more serious and effective and can achieve faster results."

As for the indirect Pakistan-Afghan talks held under the aegis of Mr Diego Cordovez, the UN secretary-general's envoy, first in Geneva last June and again last month, Mr Karmal said the discussions on this plane were "fruitful and constructive" and as such could be characterised as a "step forward." The Afghan delegation, he thought, had displayed "necessary flexibility" at these negotiations.

He was hopeful that Mr Cordovez would be able prepare the ground for direct talks among the concerned states. These discussions could bear positive results "whenever the other side shows readiness to conduct talks with necessary realism and goodwill for finding out a way of political settlement of the issue."

Answering Western critics who questioned Afghanistan's non-alignment because of the presence of Soviet troops on Afghan soil, he reiterated that this "in no way jeopardizes our non-aligned status." A founder of the Non-aligned Movement, Afghanistan had been and would remain one of its active members. Its invitation for limited contingents of Soviet troops was strictly on the basis of the Afghan-Soviet treaty registered with the UN and also "in conformity with Article 51 of the UN Charter which considers collective defence as legitimate."

He said certain Western leaders were opposed to the "progressive orientation" of the Non-aligned Movement. "For this reason, they want to create within the movement discord and disunity and isolate it from its real friends to weaken the movement, undermine its unity and use it in their own interests."

The Soviet troops were a reserve force in Afghanistan and their presence was not directly linked with acquisition of power by the DRA to deal with counter-revolution. They had been invited owing to "other factors and reasons" and till these factors ceased to exist they would remain in the country, he explained.

But Mr Karmal asserted that the DRA today could "effectively and decisively" defend the revolution and its gains despite the increasing intervention by imperialism and hegemonism.

Citing some latest facts about the consolidation of his government, he said in all about 21,000 deceived persons, who had carried out counter-revolutionary acts in the past, had surrendered themselves to the state authorities with huge quantities of weapons. These included 2,500 people in Mirbacha Kot and thousands in the Soof Valley [as published], Herat, Angarhar, Paktia. Moreover, the elders at Spin Buldak had pledged to arm 10,000 young men to defend the borders in support of the government.

He spoke of his government's successes in its efforts to achieve national reconciliation and internal peace -- the holding of 400 local jirgahs [assemblies] with the participation of Pashtu tribes, Hazaras, Uzbeks, Turkmen Nooristanis, Pashais, Baluchs in the last three years and the mobilisation of thousands of Afghan working people under the banner of the National Fatherland Front [NFF]. The NFF comprised, besides the ruling PDPA, over 160,000 trade unions, over 140,000 peasants' cooperatives, 90,000 youth organisations, over 14,000 women's organisations and numerous intellectuals in various religious and professional bodies.

"Let me categorically state that the participation of the broad strata of the toiling people in the politico-social life and the process of revolutionary changes is unprecedented in the history of our country," he said. The previous regimes did not possess even a minimum influence among the people. Today, the Afghan working masses had intertwined their destiny with that of the revolution notwithstanding the difficult conditions prevailing due to the undeclared war imposed by the imperialists, he added.

STRIKE IN ASSAM ENDS; 'NO INCIDENT REPORTED'

BK281627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] The Assam chief minister, Mr Hiteshwar Saika, today said that the state government has decided to revise the provisions of the state manual for providing higher quantum of relief to the people affected in the recent disturbances in the state. This decision was taken at the meeting of the State Cabinet, which was sworn in yesterday.

Talking to newsmen this evening, Mr Saika said that the government has also decided to give a grant of 5,000 rupees to the affected. A cattle grant of 3.5 million rupees will also be distributed. He said that over 200,000 people have been affected. Several shelter camps have been opened.

Meanwhile, the 24-hour noncooperation called by the Assam agitationists in protest against instaliation of the ministry in the state ended this evening. Official sources said that no untoward incident has been reported so far.

GANDHI REMARKS ON NUCLEAR POWER ISSUES CITED

BK251604 Hong Kong AFP in English 1527 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 25 (AFP) -- Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has informed parliament that France and India had finalised an agreed draft for the commercial supply of French nuclear fuel for U.S.-built Tarapur atomic power plant, near Bombay, it was reported here today.

Mrs Gandhi also told the upper house of parliament that India had not taken a final decision on a Soviet offer of setting up a nuclear power station.

An Indian delegation was now visiting the Soviet Union to study technical details of the offer and a decision would be taken after it submitted its report, she added.

The Indo-French contract was awaiting the formal approval of the two governments, she said, the daily TIMES OF INDIA reported.

The agreement to substitute France for the United States as the supplier of enriched uranium fuel for the Tarapur plant was reached in November during the state visit of French President Francois Mitterrand.

In her remarks before parliament, Mrs Gandhi also reiterated that her government's policy was to utilise atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

Her remarks closely follow a report in THE WASHINGTON POST daily that India had re-processed enough uranium to build about 20 atomic bombs. An Indian Government spokesman has already denied this report as "utterly irresponsible and possibly mischievous."

RIVER WATERS TALKS WITH BANGLADESH END 25 FEB

BK251417 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Feb 83

[Text] The 3-day talks of the India-Bangladesh joint rivers commission ended in New Delhi. During the resumed session of the 24th meeting, discussions were held on the pre-feasibility studies of both proposals and on the determination of ad-hoc sharing formula of the Teesta waters. The joint statement issued at the end of the talks says they have reached a large measure of agreement and decided to continue discussion in Dhaka during the next month.

KARACHI SITUATION 'NORMAL'; CURFEW LIFTED

BK281734 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] The situation throughout Karachi City remained completely normal today. The overnight curfew was lifted from the entire Karachi West District from 0600 this morning.

PAPER SEES INCREASED UNREST, CONFRONTATION

GF261350 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 26 Feb 83 p 3

[Editorial from the "International Edition": "Our Country's Internal State of Affairs"]

[Excerpts] It was announced at the Federal Cabinet meeting held at the Majlis-e-Shoora that the internal situation in the country, foreign relations, and the establishment of an Islamic system would be discussed. As usual, neither the outcome of the talks nor the decisions that had been made were announced.

It is evident that the internal situation of the country has become affected by unusual trends and if any reformation is to take place, it will be necessary to view these trends objectively. The present state of affairs can only be a cause for concern for any perceptive individual who has only the best interests of the country at heart and is removed from the caprices of the political game.

The most conspicious aspect of the country's internal situation is that unrest and confrontation seem to be on the increase. The waxing diffidence of those who desire a speedy restoration of democracy in the country is not surprising, but what is a source of apprehension is that even those political circles who oppose the course of direct confrontation with the government in the interest of the country are perturbed.

Opposition to the government is manifesting itself in different ways. Lawyers are involved in an overt protest against the government, students have initiated a course of agitation, and those prominent personalities who grace the Majlis-e-Shoora or the federal councils and have been nominated by the government have not been able to create a progovernment lobby on the public level.

The most important responsibility of martial law is the creation of law and order. Although restrictions have been imposed on political parties and activities, the situation regarding public peace and security is also far from satisfactory. Besides, foreign-trained terrorists, burglars, and armed robbers are increasing in number and sometimes they even use lethal weapons. The rise in progress and production on which the government keeps harping is definitely no myth, but if we do not take into account the earnings of those who have gone abroad for better means of livelihood, the domestic economic situation does not seem very bright. When a rigid and fast-acting system like martial law has not been able to eradicate the increasing ills of bribery, corruption, and embezzlement, then how will it ever be done?

The establishment of an Islamic system by the present government and the many positive steps taken in this direction are definitely to its credit, but the expected results have not been obtained and this has been even admitted by the government.

These conditions and the current state of affairs demand immediate and special attention of the government. The more than 5 years that have elapsed since the present government took power exceeds the tenure of an elected government, and the feeling of not being involved in the government's affairs seems to be increasing among the people.

Keeping this state of affairs in mind, we have been repeatedly requesting Mr President and his associates to end this present policy of "ad hoc-ism" and to create conditions wherein people feel a greater sense of participation in the government.

ZIA MEETS WITH PRC RADIO, TV DELEGATION 26 FEB

BK270336 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] The five-member Chinese radio and television delegation headed by Hao Pingnan, deputy minister of the Chinese Radio and Television Ministry, called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in the president's chamber of the Federal Advisory Council in Rawalpindi this afternoon.

The president congratulated the delegation on the conclusion of an agreement between Pakistan and China for radio and television cooperation and expressed the hope that the agreement would bring about positive results to benefit both countries. The president added that the agreement also will help to promote close bilateral and friendly relations. The federal minister for information and broadcasting, Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq, also was present on the occasion.

Pakistan and China signed an agreement in Islamabad today to promote radio and television cooperation. The agreement was signed by Chinese deputy minister for radio and television on behalf of the People's Republic of China and by Pakistan's secretary for information and broadcasting. The information secretary later presented gifts to the Chinese deputy minister and members of the Chinese delegation.

VOICE, VISION OF IRAN OFFICE OPENS IN ISLAMABAD

GF261646 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 26 (IRNA) -- The office of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran [VVIR] was inaugurated here Friday.

In a ceremony for the occasion, the Iranian ambassador to Pakistan, Abu Sharif, and the staff of the Iranian Embassy here, along with the cultural attache of the Iranian Embassy in Islamabad, were present.

While stressing on the importance of the Iran-Pakistan ties, Abu Sharif emphasised on the activities and role of the VVIR office here.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,233

LD281801 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Communique No 1,233 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, the fighters of Islam and the forces of the aggressive enemy continued to exchange heavy weapons fire on the western fronts. In some of the western fronts, the enemy used fire cover to try to move their troops. These activities were stopped, however, by the intense fire of our forces. One tank and a number of the Saddamist trenches also were destroyed and their personnel were killed or wounded.

On the Marivan front, the exchange of fire also continued. A group of our heroic forces infiltrated one of the Iraqi mercenary bases on the other side of the border, killed 20 Iraqi personnel, and wounded 28 others. Our artillery fire against enemy positions around Qala Dizeh and Panjwin in Iraq silenced the enemy fire and also stopped their movements and operations.

In the Wal Fajr operational zone and throughout the southern fronts, our forces and the enemy yesterday continued to exchange fire. Our antiartillery fire silenced the fire of active enemy artillery units. In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational areas, the forces of Islam opened fire on enemy concentrations on the other side of the Arvand Rud, set fire to three observation posts, three trenches, and foxholes and killed or wounded Iraqi personnel.

Some residential parts of Abadan yesterday were shelled by the long-range weapons of the forces of Saddam. Two homes were destroyed and two Abadan citizens were wounded.

During the past 24 hours, enemy aerial aggression and reconnaissance flights were neutralized as the result of the timely fire of the antiaircraft units and the tactical operations of the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

8,193 PRISONERS RELEASED 27 FEB ON IMAM'S DECREE

LD281137 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] In accordance with a recent decree by the leader of the Islamic Revolution, 8,193 prisoners all over the country were pardoned and released on 27 February. The head of the council supervising prison affairs announced the news and gave the following breakdown of figures.

Public prosecutor's office	332 women, 5,434 men
Prosecutor of the Islamic Revolution's office	22 women, 584 men
Military tribunals	10 men
Islamic Revolution court of the Army	97 men, 1 woman
Judicial branch of the armed forces	196 people
Center for purging the Islamic Revolution councils	1,110 people
Bahar rehabilitation center	407 people

In this connection, 118 people sentenced by the Islamic Revolution court of Neyshabur were released.

GILAN PROVINCE INVESTIGATION REPORT DISCUSSED

GF010632 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Mar 83

[Text] The central headquarters of the committee for the implementation of the imam's decree held a meeting attended by the chief of the Supreme Court; the prime minister; Emani-Kashani, chief of the administrative justice tribunal; Nateq-Nuri, interior minister; Mohaqqeq-Damad, chief of the national investigation organization; and Aqazadeh, minister of state for executive matters.

At the meeting, the team of the committee for the implementation of the imam's decree that had been dispatched to Gilan Province submitted a report on its investigations and findings. According to the report, the team sent to Gilan Province reviewed more than 2,500 dossiers after having received complaints and investigated 1,005 allegations against the purge and reconstruction committees of the education department of Gilan Province during its stay in the province. During last night's meeting, a report on these cases and violations was presented to the headquarters. After review, it was decided:

1. The reconstruction committee of the education department of Gilan Province stands dissolved on the basis of the violations reported and the numerous complaints received. All steps taken by this committee will be submitted to the administrative justice tribunal for investigation and final verdict.

2. A report on the performance and dossiers on the violations and crimes of the pseudoclergymen who were members of the purge committees for Gilan Province and the illegal and un-Islamic measures taken by them were discussed at the meeting. The central headquarters of the committee for the implementation of the imam's decrees will forward all decisions made by these pseudoclergymen vis-a-vis the purge of personnel in Gilan Province for further investigation and for final verdict on their fate to the administrative justice tribunal in the light of the complaints and dossiers on the crimes of these pesudoclergymen submitted to the judicial department.

3. A report was presented to the headquarters on the performance of the physical education department of Gilan Province by the team sent to this province. This report was forwarded to the authorities concerned for a final decision and verdict.

4. All those found guilty of violations and those who have abused their legal privileges and acted beyond their jurisdiction have been summoned to the headquarters to submit explanations and receive the verdict on their fate.

5. On the basis of the fact-finding report presented by the team dispatched to Gilan Province by the headquarters on the home for the Rasht disabled, the representative of the prime minister had been assigned to look into the shortages and welfare of the department.

6. The team sent to Gilan Province expressed its appreciation for the efficiency and satisfactory conditions prevailing in the department for prisons of the Rasht Police Department due to the efforts of those in charge during its survey of the prisons.

At the conclusion of last night's session, the work of the team sent by committee for the implementation of the imam's decrees to Gilan Province was lauded and a plan to investigate the problems of the workers and violations in industrial centers was ratified and its salient points approved.

REPORTAGE ON DPRK VICE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

Meeting With Velayati

LD261502 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Text] The DPRK vice foreign minister, who is leading a delegation to Iran, met with Foreign Minister Velayati this morning. Views on bilateral and international issues were exchanged.

During the meeting, the DPRK vice minister expressed support for Iran's Islamic Revolution under the leadership of His Holiness Imam Khomeyni and called for the expansion and strengthening of relations between the two countries. He said: To strengthen the friendly relations between our two countries, we invite the president and prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran to visit the DPRK in the very near future.

Velayati also expressed an interest in expanding relations between the two countries: "We support the DPRK's applications to host the Eighth Nonaligned Conference. We have always defended the just rights of the Korean people and call for the unification of the two Korea's.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the DPRK's vice foreign minister delivered a message from DPRK Foreign Minister Ho Tam to our country's foreign minister.

Vice Minister's Press Conference

LD261832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Feb 83

[Excerpts] The DPRK vice foreign minister, who is leading a delegation to Tehran, this afternoon held a press conference in which he commented on the positive results of his visit to Iran.

The DPRK official told correspondents that his trip to Iran was very useful and successful and that his delegation is very satisfied with the outcome of discussions held with officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He said during this visit a wide range of topics with the aim of continued expansion of bilateral relations were discussed and the two sides reached complete understanding.

Commenting on Soviet aggression against Afghanistan, the DPRK vice foreign minister said the Nonaligned Movement and our government adhere to the permanent principle of calling for the dissolution, as soon as possible, of military alliances and the dismantling of all military bases. He added that the best sign of a country's good will is for that country to withdraw its Army from foreign countries.

Commenting on the need to promote the Nonaligned Movement as a means to prevent war, promote peace, and defend national independence, the DPRK official said it is the task of the nonaligned states to protect the movement's basic principles and to respect full justice and the principle of noninterference in other country's affairs.

Commenting on the prospect of an increase in trade and commercial exchange between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the DPRK in 1983, he said such an increase is in the interest of our two countries' relations and my government and the DPRK people will spare no effort to achieve an increase and expansion of bilateral cooperation with Iran. The DPRK vice foreign minister invited our country's president and prime minister to visit the DPRK.

Discussion With Khamene'i

GF271502 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Kim Chae-suk, DPRK vice foreign minister, during his meeting with Iranian President Khamene'i yesterday evening delivered a message from Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK. According to our correspondent, during this meeting, matters regarding expansion of relations between the two countries were discussed. Also discussed were the Seventh Nonaligned Conference to be held in New Delhi and the need for greater unity among the members of this movement.

According to the same report, President Khamene'i while drawing attention to various moves aimed at weakening the Nonaligned Movement said nonaligned members should state their clear and unambiguous policy against the United States and its adherents.

At the end of the meeting, the DPRK vice foreign minister invited President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to visit the DPRK and the latter expressed the hope that at some appropriate time in the future he may be able to visit that country.

27 February Departure

LD271201 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Kim Chae-suk, DPRK vice foreign minister, who arrived in Tehran last week, ended his visit this morning. The political under secretary of the Foreign Ministry saw him off at Mehrabad Airport.

NVOI ON 'OPPOSING LINES IN ISLAMIC LEADERSHIP'

TA221557 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian at 1730 GMT on 21 February carries a commentary entitled: "History Is Being Repeated, People Do Not Be Deceived." It said: In recent months, struggle and conflict between two different and opposing lines in the Islamic leadership has intensified further. The supporters of the imam's genuine line view the pe-petuation of the revolution in ending the domination of economic terrorists, whereas in the other line, we can see faces and features who want to preserve the domination of these elements. Recently, these supporters of major capitalists and landowners have come out into the open. It is now without reason that in many of our homeland's religious and nonreligious circles, they link the recent arrest of the leaders of the true revolutionary dissenting forces to the intensification of struggle between two wings and two lines in the Islamic leadership.

In fact, during recent months, the policy of the supporters of major capitalists and landlords has been completely revealed to our society's million-strong masses. The leaders of this line, who until recently were striving to cunningly conceal their real intentions from public opinion, now have exposed their true features in respect to several sensitive issues such as the drafting of a new labor law, the nationalization of foreign trade, and the distribution of land to farmers.

The managers of the line opposed to the imam's genuine line, like their predecessors, have resorted to the self-same policy of blackmail, accusation, slander, anticommunism, and anti-Tudeh. During the oil nationalization period and on the eve of the 19 August coup, the elements of America and Britain and the hired writers of the major capitalists and landlords used to chant the cry of "Death to the Soviet Union" and today too they are doing the same thing. "In those days too they charged the revolutionary dissenting forces with espionage and affiliation with the East and similar nonsense. Today also, those same wornout weapons fabricated by the police of the royal despotic regime and the writers and members of the court of the annihilated Mohammad Reza are being repeated by the supporters of the line of major capitalists and landlords. It is for this reason that we are saying again: History is being repeated. O people do not be deceived."

NVOI COMMENTARY CRITICIZES LABOR MINISTRY

TA221941 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian at 1730 GMT on 22 February carries a commentary entitled: "The Common Line Between the Followers of Mo'aviyeh's School and the German Nazis." It says: As you are aware, some time ago the Islamic societies and councils of Tehran factories held a joint session. Discussions were held between workers and spokesmen of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs about the draft of the new labor law.

This gathering was the scene of a confrontation between two lines: The line of the revolution and the imam and the line of the defenders of employers and major capitalists. At this gathering, the representatives of the Ministry of Labor, as the spokesmen of arrogance, openly and with unprecedented impudence, insulted and intimidated the workers. If until this gathering, Iranian workers had harbored certain hopes regarding the attainment of their rights, after these discussions, they learned forever that the capitalist class will not so easily leave them alone and will always employ the Tavakkolis and Reza'is to emasculate the aims of the revolution and to violate the rights of toilers.

In the draft of the new labor law, it has been suggested that the name worker be replaced by the term "one who accepts work." Of course, this has no precedence whatsoever in Islam. The fact is that for the first time in history it was the German Nazis who used this term. The Nazis used to say that workers and employers have no conflict, namely, the same thing that Mr Reza'i is saying right now, which is that in Islam there is no contradiction between work and wealth. However, the likes of Tavakkoli and Reza'i should know that the Iranian Revolution has condemned all futile efforts by the bloodsucking capitalists and their agents. Iranian workers will gain their legitimate rights sooner or later.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST EMINENT CLERGYMEN CITED

GF271834 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] Administrative circles of the Islamic Republic appear to have initiated a campaign to malign other eminent clergymen and sources of emulation following the pressure exerted on Ayatollah Shari'atmadari.

According to the Free Voice of Iran correspondent, in its February issue, the publication of the office of the Islamic propagation department in Qom, has branded Ayatollah Khoi, who is in holy Najaf, a supporter of the previous regime by citing Khomeyni, but without mentioning his name. It also claimed that he has been excommunicated from the fold of the true clergy. This was in an article in PASDAR-E ESLAM written by a clergyman named Khatam Yazdi who is on the science (?faculty).

Political circles are of the view that the henchmen of the Islamic regime are trying to gauge the reaction of the people, and until they actually encounter a violent reaction from the people, they will continue to accelerate their campaign of slander and libel to malign the sources of emulation and eminent clergymen who are opponents of the Khomeyni regime.

GUARDS, PESHMERGA CLEAR VILLAGES NEAR OSHNOVIYEH

LD271735 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Feb 83

[Text] The Central News Unit reports from Oshnoviyeh that a group of combatants of Islam, comprising the brothers of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Muslim Kurdish peshmerga, cleaned up nine more villages near Oshnoviyeh. The armed assailants, who were unable to put up any resistance to the combatants of Islam, were forced to flee. According to this report, the forces of Islam returned to their bases unharmed after the operations. The names of the liberated villages are (Sorushabad), Khaledabad, Pardabad, Sargheyn, [name indistinct], (Qarasaqal), [three remaining names indistinct].

AFGHAN MUJAHIDIN ACTIVITIES IN HERAT NOTED

Attack Foiled

GF241737 Tehran IRNA in English 1600 GMT 24 Feb 83

[Text] Mashhad, Feb. 24, IRNA -- Ninety soldiers of the joint Soviet and Afghan Government forces were killed or wounded as the unsuccessful attack against a military base of the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries, in western Herat Province, was foiled late last week.

Some high-ranking Soviet military advisors were among thosed killed in this operation.

In retaliation of this defeat, the occupier forces shelled the inhabitated areas of the Babaji region devastating 40 residential units and wounding 10 innocent people.

Attacks Launched

GF281800 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 28 Feb 83

[Text] Mashhad, Feb. 28, IRNA -- The Afghan Muslim combatants carried out a surprise attack against the Soviet occupiers and Afghan Government forces in the (Dahan Dughi) region of Herat Province last week, killing 10 of the latter's troops as well as setting afire two tanks and a jeep. This region was surrounded by the said joint forces in order to disarm the Afghan revolutionary forces.

In another attack against the Soviet occupiers and Afghan Government forces in the Dasht-e Karim region of Nimruz Province last week, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries smashed two more enemy tanks. Two Afghan Muslim combatants were martyred in this operation.